

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed August 19, 2008, the Examiner objected to claims 1-2, 5-8, and 14-21 as failing to provide proper support for the recited "computer-readable media;" and rejected claims 1-2, 5-11, and 13-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0016771 to Carothers et al. (Carothers) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0225675 to Benson.

By this amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 14, and 21 to recite a "computer-readable storage medium."

Claims 1, 2, 5-11, and 13-21 are currently pending.

Regarding the objection to claims 1-3, 5-8 and 14-21, the Examiner alleges that the specification does not provide support for a computer-readable medium. Applicants disagree and submit that the specification is replete with disclosure of a computer-readable storage medium. For example, paragraph 0006 describes a data buffer, a system memory, a database system, a database. Applicants respectfully submit that M.P.E.P. 608.01(o) states:

While an applicant is not limited to the nomenclature used in the application as filed, he or she should make appropriate amendment of the specification whenever this nomenclature is departed from by amendment of the claims so as to have clear support or antecedent basis in the specification for the new terms appearing in the claims. This is necessary in order to insure certainty in construing the claims in the light of the specification, Ex parte Kotler, 1901 C.D. 62, 95 O.G. 2684 (Comm'r Pat. 1901). See 37 CFR 1.75, MPEP § 608.01(i) and § 1302.01.

As such, the objection to claims 1-3, 5-8, and 14-21 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 5-11, and 13-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Carothers in view of Benson. Applicants respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner alleges that Carothers at paragraphs 0049 teaches the following feature of claim 1: "a business reporting tool which performs online analytical processing business reporting operations based on one or more data objects accessed from a data buffer, the

business reporting tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to not make changes to the one or more data objects.” But a careful scrutiny of the cited portions of Carothers reveals that Carothers, at best, discloses “generation of reports,” but is completely silent with respect to viewing one or more data objects in a data buffer and limiting the report generator to restrict changes to the one or more data objects. Moreover, it appears that the Examiner has ignored the corresponding recitations from claim 1. For the Examiner’s convenience, Carothers paragraph 0049 is reproduced below.

[0049] An embodiment of the present invention provides, for example, a home banking MIS facility that is used for generation of reports on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis and exists as a system for identifying trends, customer behavior, and capacity planning relating to home banking activities. The MIS system 10 for an embodiment of the present invention is a global product that is deployable both domestically and internationally. The system 10 provides for a large-capacity, high performance database 12, and report generation facilities and utilizes data warehousing and OLAP technologies. The data warehousing system 10 provides key functions, such as providing a knowledge-base of all home banking transactions and providing a set of canned reports generated frequently and automatically for subsequent controlled distribution. Additional features include, for example, OLAP query processing (graphical, drill-up/drill-down, and statistics), providing access control and role-based security, and ad hoc query processing.

Carothers, para. 0049. In view of the foregoing, Carothers fails to disclose or suggest at least the following feature of claim 1: “a business reporting tool which performs online analytical processing business reporting operations based on one or more data objects accessed from a data buffer, the business reporting tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to not make changes to the one or more data objects.”

The Examiner alleges that Carothers at paragraphs 0064 and 0049 discloses the following feature of claim 1: “a business planning tool, integrated with the reporting tool, which performs online analytical processing business planning operations based on the one or more

data objects accessed from the data buffer, the business planning tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to change the one or more data objects." However, paragraph 0064 and Carothers Figure 7 (reproduced below) have nothing to do with a business planning tool, much less one that is integrated with a reporting tool. Nor is there any disclosure or suggestion regarding whether the business planning tool is configured to view the one or more data objects and to change the one or more data objects. At best, Carothers paragraph 0064 discloses a home banking system transaction log parsing and extraction program "referred to as DAPARSER.EXE 43." Carothers, para. 0050. Specifically, Carothers states:

[0064] This invocation brings up an interactive version of the DAPARSER program 43. FIG. 7 shows a sample GUI screen 70 for the interactive version for an embodiment of the present invention. Referring to FIG. 7, the description column 72 is the description of the ELF contents. The value column 74 is the contents of that ELF in the message instance in the file, given by the file offset 76 shown above the grid. A typical use for the interactive version is as a quick viewer of MIS logs. An example of the non-interactive SQL dump for data warehousing mode of operation is: [C:\] DAPARSER-SO<SQL Output File>-I<TI input File(s)>

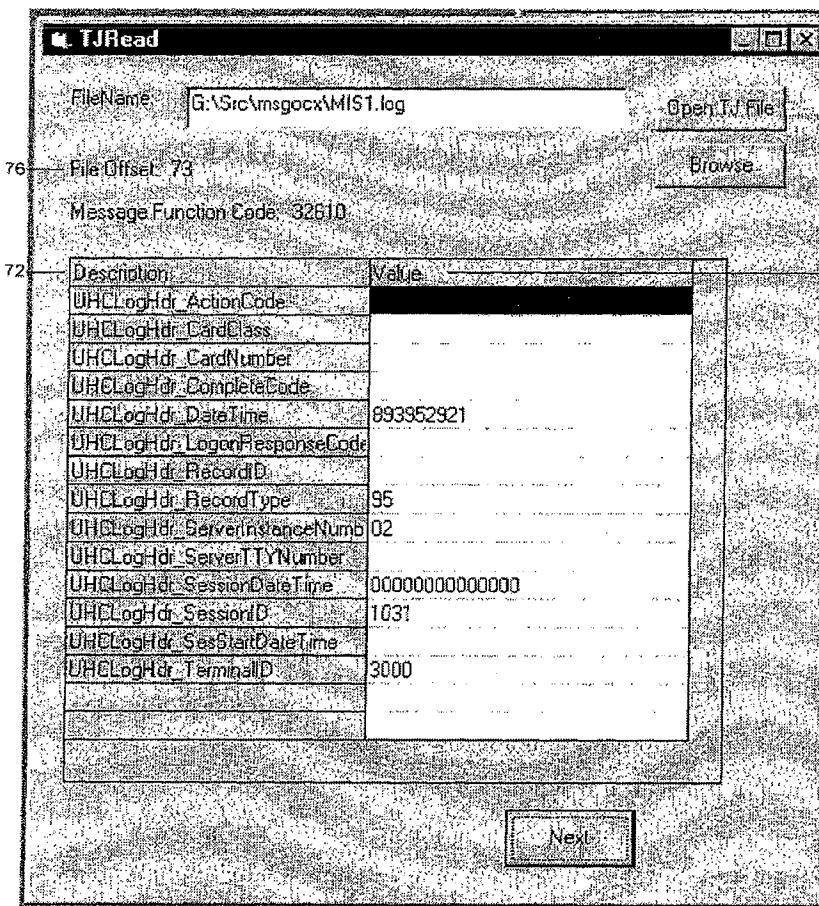


Fig. 7

In view of the foregoing, Carothers fails to suggest or disclose at least the following feature of claim 1: "a business planning tool, integrated with the reporting tool, which performs online analytical processing business planning operations based on the one or more data objects accessed from the data buffer, the business planning tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to change the one or more data objects."

Moreover, although Benson discloses metadirectories, Benson does not cure (nor does the Examiner allege that it cures) the above-noted deficiencies of Carothers. Therefore, neither Carothers nor Benson, whether taken alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least the following features as recited in claim 1: “a business reporting tool which performs online analytical processing business reporting operations based on one or more data objects accessed from a data buffer, the business reporting tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to not make changes to the one or more data objects” and “a business planning tool, integrated with the reporting tool, which performs online analytical processing business planning operations based on the one or more data objects accessed from the data buffer, the business planning tool configured to view the one or more data objects and to change the one or more data objects.” As such, claim 1 is allowable over Carothers and Benson, and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Moreover, regarding Benson, the Examiner alleges that Benson at paragraph 0045 discloses that “a delta buffer configured to store a delta record, wherein the delta record characterizes a difference between the one or more data objects and a modified version of the one or more data objects, the modified version being a result of a change made by the business planning tool to the data objects accessed from the database, the data objects buffered in the data buffer having a logical key, a description of an aggregation level, and a description of a selection condition, the business reporting tool and the business planning tool requesting data from the data buffer having a specified aggregation level and a specified selection condition, the delta buffer and the data buffer providing an integrated view to the business reporting tool and the business planning tool.”

However, nowhere does Benson suggest or disclose the following feature of the claimed “data buffer”: “the data objects buffered in the data buffer having a logical key, a description of an aggregation level, and a description of a selection condition, the business reporting tool and

the business planning tool requesting data from the data buffer having a specified aggregation level and a specified selection condition,” as recited in claim 1. Instead, Benson paragraph 0045 discloses “record deltas contain[ing] all of the operational and value information typically required to manage an entity or object of a disparate directory.” Moreover, conspicuously absent from this passage is any mention of a database since the passage deals with directories. Furthermore, Carothers fails to cure these noted deficiencies of Benson. For this additional reason, claim 1 is allowable over Carothers and Benson, and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 5-8 depend from claim 1. Claims 9, 14, and 21, although of different scope, include limitations that are similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1. Claims 10, 11, and 13 depend from claim 9. Claims 15-20 depend from claim 14. For at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1, claims 2, 5-11, and 13-21 are allowable over Carothers and Benson, and the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

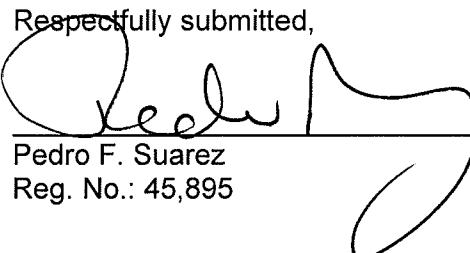
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. No fee is believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-022/2003P00820US. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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